



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held July 22, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“In mid May 2003, Representatives Doug Ose and Jane Harman jointly introduced H.R. 2193, entitled the ‘Port Security Improvements Act of 2003.’ The bill has numerous co-sponsors and is bi-partisan legislation.

“After the ‘Attack on America’ on September 11, 2001, Congress turned its energy to enhancing security at all of the nation’s airports and has worked to ensure Federal funding to improve air security. In contrast, Congress has not provided sufficient Federal funding to fully ensure port security. The vast U.S. Maritime System includes more than 300 ports with more than 3,700 cargo and passenger terminals, which are particularly susceptible to terrorist attempts to smuggle personnel, weapons of mass destruction, and other dangerous materials into the United States. A large-scale terrorist attack at any U.S. port could seriously affect our economy.

“This newly introduced legislation will enhance security requirements for all U.S. ports and every vessel entering a U.S port, and will earmark a portion of the more than \$15.6 billion in duties that are collected on commodities entering the U.S to help pay for these new protections.

“The ‘Port Security Improvements Act of 2003’ will ensure that America’s ports receive the security upgrades they need. International trade plays a vital role in our regional, State, and national economies. Improvements in security are now considered a high priority.”

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Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of H.R. 2193 (Ose), the "Port Security Improvements Act of 2003", legislation which would enhance security requirements for all U.S. ports and every vessel entering a U.S. port and will earmark a portion of the more than \$15.6 billion in duties that are collected on commodities entering the United States to help pay for these new protections; and
2. Instructed the Executive Officer of the Board to send a five-signature letter to President Bush and the California Congressional Delegation urging early, favorable action and enactment of H.R. 2193.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel

Letters sent to:

The President of the United States
Each Member, California Congressional Delegation